

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, §10, 37 Stat. 318; Pub. L. 97-461, §2, Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2523.)

CODIFICATION

Section is composed of part of section 10 of act Aug. 20, 1912. Other provisions of section 10 are classified to sections 164 and 164a of this title. Section is also set out in D.C. Code, §6-1105.

AMENDMENTS

1983—Pub. L. 97-461 added the element of knowledge to the definition of all violations, added use and the lack of authority from the Secretary to the definition of the group of violations including alteration, defacement or destruction of certificates, substituted criminal penalties of a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or a year's imprisonment or both for a fine of \$500 or a year's imprisonment or both in the discretion of the court, inserted provisions relating to civil penalties, and struck out provision that no common carrier would be deemed to have violated sections 152, 154, 156 to 161, and 162 of this title on proof that such carrier did not knowingly receive for transportation or transport nursery stock or other plants or plant products as such in the United States.

CROSS REFERENCES

District of Columbia, violation of rules and regulations, see section 167 of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 167 of this title.

§ 164. Duty of United States attorneys to prosecute

It shall be the duty of the United States attorneys diligently to prosecute any violations of this chapter which are brought to their attention by the Secretary of Agriculture or which come to their notice by other means.

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, §10, 37 Stat. 318.)

CODIFICATION

Section is composed of part of section 10 of act Aug. 20, 1912. Other provisions of section 10 are classified to sections 163 and 164a of this title. Section is also set out in D.C. Code, §6-1105.

§ 164a. Enforcement of quarantine against nursery stock and plant products; search and seizure

Any employee of the Department of Agriculture, authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture to enforce the provisions of this chapter and furnished with and wearing a suitable badge for identification, who has probable cause to believe that any person coming into the United States, or any vehicle, receptacle, boat, ship, or vessel, coming from any country or countries or moving interstate, possesses, carries, or contains any nursery stock, plants, plant products, or other articles the entry or movement of which in interstate or foreign commerce is prohibited or restricted by the provisions of this chapter, or by any quarantine or order of the Secretary of Agriculture issued or promulgated pursuant thereto, shall have power to stop and, without warrant, to inspect, search, and examine such person, vehicle, receptacle, boat, ship, or vessel, and to seize, destroy, or otherwise dispose of, such nursery stock, plants, plant products, or other articles found to be moving or to have been moved in interstate commerce or to

have been brought into the United States in violation of this chapter, or of such quarantine or order.

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, §10, as added May 1, 1928, ch. 462, 45 Stat. 468.)

CODIFICATION

Section is composed of part of section 10 of act Aug. 20, 1912. Other provisions of section 10 are classified to sections 163 and 164 of this title.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of all officers, agencies, and employees of Department of Agriculture transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, §1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

§ 165. Repealed. Pub. L. 88-448, title IV, § 402(a)(13), Aug. 19, 1964, 78 Stat. 493

Section, act Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, §12, 37 Stat. 319, related to appointment of members of a Federal Horticultural Board from among employees of Department of Agriculture.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective on first day of first month which begins later than ninetieth day following Aug. 19, 1964, see section 403 of Pub. L. 88-448.

§ 165a. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, act May 16, 1928, ch. 572, 45 Stat. 565, provided that the functions of the Federal Horticultural Board should devolve upon and be exercised by the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration. Said act also created an Advisory Federal Plant Quarantine Board which was abolished by act Mar. 3, 1933, ch. 203, 47 Stat. 1463. Appropriations to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to carry into effect the provisions of this chapter, which in prior appropriation acts had been made to the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration, were made to the Bureau of Plant Quarantine by the appropriation act of July 7, 1932, ch. 443, 47 Stat. 640, and to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine by the appropriation act of Mar. 26, 1934, ch. 89, 48 Stat. 486, and subsequent appropriation acts.

§ 166. State terminal inspection; transmission of mailed packages for State inspection; non-mailable matter; punishment for violations; rules and regulations by United States Postal Service

When any State shall provide for terminal inspection of plants and plant products, and shall establish and maintain, at the sole expense of the State, such inspection at one or more places therein, the proper officials of said State may submit to the Secretary of Agriculture a list of plants and plant products and the plant pests transmitted thereby, that in the opinion of said officials should be subject to terminal inspection in order to prevent the introduction or dissemination in said State of pests injurious to agriculture. Upon his approval of said list, in whole or in part, the Secretary of Agriculture shall transmit the same to the United States Postal Service, and thereafter all packages containing any plants or plant products named in said approved lists shall, upon payment of postage therefor, be forwarded by the postmaster at the destination of said package to the proper

State official at the nearest place where inspection is maintained. If the plants or plant products (including seed) are found upon inspection to be free from injurious pests and not in violation of a plant-quarantine law or plant-quarantine regulation of the United States Department of Agriculture or of the State of destination pertaining to such injurious pests, or if infected shall be disinfected by said official, they shall upon payment of postage therefor be returned to the postmaster at the place of inspection to be forward¹ to the person to whom they are addressed; but if found to be infected with injurious pests and incapable of satisfactory disinfection or in violation of a plant-quarantine law or plant-quarantine regulation of the United States Department of Agriculture or of the State of destination pertaining to such injurious pests, the State inspector shall so notify the postmaster at the place of inspection who shall promptly notify the sender of said plants or plant products that they will be returned to him upon his request and at his expense, or in default of such request that they will be turned over to the State authorities for destruction.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to deposit in the United States mails any package containing any plant or plant product addressed to any place within a State maintaining inspection thereof, as herein defined, without plainly marking the package so that its contents may be readily ascertained by an inspection of the outside thereof. Whoever shall fail to so mark said packages shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.

The United States Postal Service is authorized and directed to make all needful rules and regulations for carrying out the purposes hereof.

(Mar. 4, 1915, ch. 144, 38 Stat. 1113; June 4, 1936, ch. 495, 49 Stat. 1461; Pub. L. 91-375, § 4(a), Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 773.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Agricultural Appropriation Act, 1916, and not as part of the "Plant Quarantine Act" which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

1936—Act June 4, 1936, amended last sentence of first par. by changing introductory word "plant" to "plants", inserting "(including seed)", "and not in violation of a plant-quarantine law or plant-quarantine regulation of the United States Department of Agriculture or of the State of destination pertaining to such injurious pests", "or in violation of a plant-quarantine law or plant-quarantine regulation of the United States Department of Agriculture or of the State of destination pertaining to such injurious pests," and striking out the comma after "place of inspection".

SHORT TITLE

This section is popularly known as the "Terminal Inspection Act."

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

In first and third pars., "United States Postal Service" substituted for "Postmaster General" pursuant to Pub. L. 91-375, § 4(a), Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 773, set out as a note under section 201 of Title 39, Postal Service, which abolished office of Postmaster General of Post Office Department and transferred its functions to United States Postal Service.

Functions of all officers, agencies, and employees of Department of Agriculture transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, § 1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

§ 167. Rules governing District of Columbia

Prohibition against shipment generally.—In order further to control and eradicate and to prevent the dissemination of dangerous plant diseases and insect infections and infestations no plant or plant products for or capable of propagation, including nursery stock, hereinafter referred to as plants and plant products, shall be moved or allowed to be moved, shipped, transported, or carried by any means whatever into or out of the District of Columbia, except in compliance with such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture as hereinafter provided.

Eradication by owner.—Whenever the Secretary of Agriculture, after investigation, shall determine that any plants and plant products in the District of Columbia are infested or infected with insect pests and diseases and that any place, articles, and substances used or connected therewith are so infested or infected, written notice thereof shall be given by him to the owner or person in possession or control thereof, and such owner or person shall forthwith control or eradicate and prevent the dissemination of such insect pest or disease and shall remove, cut, or destroy such infested and infected plants, plant products, and articles and substances used or connected therewith, which are declared to be nuisances, within the time and in the manner required in said notice or by the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Eradication by Secretary of Agriculture.—Whenever such owner or person cannot be found, or shall fail, neglect, or refuse to comply with the foregoing provisions of this section, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and required to control and eradicate and prevent dissemination of such insect pest or disease and to remove, cut, or destroy infested or infected plants and plant products and articles and substances used or connected therewith, and the United States shall have an action of debt against such owner or persons for expenses incurred by the Secretary of Agriculture in that behalf.

Inspection.—Employees of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine are authorized and required to inspect places, plants, and plant products and articles and substances used or connected therewith whenever the Secretary of Agriculture shall determine that such inspections are necessary for the purposes of this section.

Entry upon premises; opening packages; destruction of plants, etc.—For the purpose of carrying out the provisions and requirements of this section and of the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture made hereunder, and the notices given pursuant thereto, employees of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine shall have power with a warrant to enter into or upon any place and open any bundle, package, or other container of plants or plant products whenever they shall have cause to believe that infections or infestations of

¹ So in original.